#### Student is under distress.

# SIGNS OF DISTRESS include (but are not limited to):

- Nervousness, agitation, or irritability
- Infrequent class attendance
- Tearfulness
- Changes in academic performance
- Changes in personal or classroom relationships
- Undue aggressive or abrasive behavior
- Fearfulness
- Dependency (e.g., student who is excessively clingy)
- Frequent alcohol and/or drug use
  - DIRECTLY ask about your concerns and/or the warning signs.
  - DIRECTLY ask about suicide and/or homicide as it relates to the displayed warning sign(s).

Express your concerns to the student, pointing out your observations and asking about his/her situation.

Are you worried about the student's safety or do you see possible warning signs?

### WARNING SIGNS include (but are not limited to):

- Withdrawal from others (isolation)
- Talks about or threatens suicide
- Makes statements such as "I want this all to end" or "I can't go on anymore"
- Significant confusion
- Behavior is bizarre, alarming, and/or dangerous
- Makes statements about hurting or killing others
- Marked change in behavior, mood, and/or hygiene
- Appears depressed (frequent crying, insomnia, oversleeping, weight loss/gain, loss of pleasure
- Appears/reports hopelessness or helplessness
- Engagement in self-harm (e.g., cutting)

Do You Believe There is Imminent Danger?

## YES,

Imminent danger is clearly present

#### **Examples:**

- Student found unconscious or unresponsive
- Student tells you that they have ingested pills beyond the recommended dose (whether the student confirms it is a suicide attempt or not).
- Student is threatening immediate danger to self (e.g., threatening to jump out a window, ingest pills, shoot self, etc.)
- Student attempts, or threatens, to cause physical harm to someone else (or people in general).

Immediately call Campus Police at 911 (if calling from call phone, call

## UNCLEAR

NO

Whether imminent danger is present

#### Examples:

- Student reports a history of self-injurious behavior (e.g., cutting or burning) and now states a desire to engage in this behavior again.
- Student is found intoxicated or appears to be under the influence of substances.
- Student makes statements that are suggestive of suicidal/homicidal thinking that are not overtly indicative of imminent danger (e.g., I don't know if I can keep going).
- Student appears emotionally distraught and does not respond to your attempts to calm him/her.
- Student experiences a sudden stressful event (e.g. death, breakup, divorce) and seems emotionally unstable/inconsolable, OR the student's response appears unusual (e.g. uncontrollable crying over a failed exam, no apparent response to the death of immediate family member, etc.)
- Student's work, assignments, and/or communications contain material that raises concerns about suicide, homicide, and/or violence.

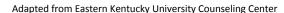
# NO,

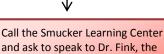
Imminent danger is clearly not present

## Examples:

- You observe a student crying after getting off the phone, she reports that she is sad about the end of a romantic relationship; she denies suicidal/homicidal thoughts and shows no warning signs.
- Student is struggling due to academic skill deficits and test anxiety; he denies suicidal/homicidal thoughts and shows no warning signs.

If the student starts to discuss any issue you feel may have legal implications, advise the student you will need to speak to your department head. You should also state that you cannot promise confidentiality.





Professional Counselor. PONOT EMAIL – This situation requires an immediate response.



- 1. Relevant details about the situation (who, what, where, when).
- 2. Any background information you have about the student's difficulties.
- 3. A number where you can be reached.

Give a copy to Campus Police (to assist emergency treatment providers) and a copy to your department head.



If Dr. Fink is not available, contact the Interim Associate Dean, Dan Deckler (330-684-8761) or the Business Office (330-684-8990) who will contact the Dean.

- The Dean can help provide university follow-up and can facilitate the use of appropriate university resources as needed.
- The Dean of collects information about students and works in cooperation with various departments across campus to address student issues and students of concern.

Call the Smucker Learning Center and ask to speak to Dr. Fink, the Professional Counselor. DO NOT EMAIL – This situation requires an immediate response.

If the situation occurs after hours, contact Campus Police at 330-684-8910.



Provide all the relevant information you have about this student and the situation to the counselor; because as faculty, you have had the opportunity to observe the student over time, and with guidance, you can provide valuable information about the student's mental health.

When you contact the Smucker Learning Center about a student, we will work with you to determine the proper course of action.



Contact your department head and inform him/her of the situation.

Document relevant details about the situation (who, what, where, when) and background information you have about the student's difficulties.



Contact the Interim Associate Dean, Dan Deckler (330-684-8761) or the Business Office (330-684-8990) who will contact the Dean.

- The Dean can help provide university follow-up and can facilitate the use of appropriate university resources as needed.
- The Dean collects information about students, and works in cooperation with various departments across campus to address student issues and students of concern.

### **Campus Resources**

Business Office: 330-684-8990 Counseling Services: 330-684-8960 Maintenance: 330-684-8917 Police Department: 330-684-8910 Smucker Learning Center: 330-684-8960 Student Services: 330-684-8900 As much as you and the student are comfortable, listen and provide support; but do not become the student's therapist.



Discuss counseling services and/or other university resources that might be helpful, and address any concerns the student might have about these resources. If you need assistance in determining the appropriate resource(s), or about how to refer, contact the Smucker Learning Center (330-684-8960) and ask to speak with Dr. Fink, the Professional Counselor.



Should you decide to refer to the Smucker Learning Center Counseling Services:

- Please know that we would like to hear your concerns about the student and your beliefs about the urgency of the situation.
- Consider calling with the students, or accompanying the student to the Smucker Learning Center, to initiate counseling services.



#### Note:

If at any point you believe the student's "Imminent Danger" status may have changed, return to the "Imminent Danger" steps outlined in this flowchart.